



Well, it's been a busy, busy beer month, indeed. Some took the MALT bus, the Philly Craft Beer Fest has come and gone, the Brickskeller held two Strong Ale tastings, and two beer-packed holidays, Mardi Gras and St. Patrick's Day, have passed. Now, the NCAA Tourney is in full swing, but don't forget we have a competition brewing of our own.

## **March Meeting Minutes**

There's still time (though not much) to add your beer to the contestants for the Inter-Center Brewoff! The Downselect Party, where we sample and vote on which beers to enter into the competition, is happening on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm in Building 86 (near the water tower), room 122. We need your beer by then! This year, our categories are Light Lager, Pilsner, and Porter (BJCP 1, 2, and 12, respectively). Pizza will be provided at the judging!

For each style, two bottles of the beer with the most votes will be sent to JSC. The live video conference taste-off is scheduled for Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from noon to 4:00pm, location still to be determined. We'll have a decent web connection this year, you'll get to sample fellow NASA brews from across the nation, plus, it'll be a good opportunity to get in some BJCP judging practice. I don't think you want to miss it!

## **Other Club News**

Pint glasses (16oz) with our logo have arrived! If you haven't already done so, you can pick yours up at Kevin's office in building 11, room S117, just down the hall from where we hold our meetings. They're \$7 each for members and \$8 for non-members. For a four-pack, it's \$25 (members) and \$30 (non-members).

## **Miscellaneous**

Join [Beerspotter](#) on Twitter! Keep up with the latest beer sightings in the DC area.

If you're familiar with the HeBrew Jewbelation Series, you'll know that they brew in accordance to a 1% ABV, 1 malt, and 1 hop variety rule for each year celebrated. (This year being their 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary, they've released a very nice, but whopping 12%er. Details, including a list of the malts and hops used, can be found [here](#).) But next year's the big one. They're turning 13, planning a Bah Mitzvah, and are looking to put actual Bah Mitzvah photos on their labels. So if you or any beer lover you know have any and want to be distributed throughout the country, send them in!!!

Finally, if basketball isn't your game, the 2009 National IPA Tournament is also underway and may be of interest. Last year, Green Flash IPA narrowly defeated Bell's Two Hearted in a hard-fought Championship round. (In the meantime, I've tried said Green Flash and heartily disagree with the outcome.) Check out this year's [full bracket](#).

Happy March Madness!







## **Next Meeting**



**Downselect Party (April 10<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00pm)** – This is where we sample and vote on the beers to enter into the Intercenter Brewoff. This year, our categories are Light Lager, Pilsner, and Porter. So far, our entries include:

Kevin Berry – Lager and a Porter  
Damon Gunther – Porter  
Gary Keith – Lager and Brown  
Jason Kuznicki – Lager (?)  
Sebastian Stewart – Porter

Judging will take place in Building 86 (near the water tower), room 122. Pizza included. Two of each style will be sent to JSC. The video conference tasteoff will be on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, noon to 4pm.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **MARCH**

- **Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>: Clipper City Beer, Cheese, and Chili Festival**
  - Noon to 5pm, 4615 Hollins Ferry Rd, Halethorpe, MD, 21227
  - Tickets are \$35 and limited to the first 300 ONLY!

Join us at the Clipper City Brewery for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Beer, Cheese & Chili Fest for an ALL-YOU-CARE-TO-TASTE extravaganza complete with a behind the scenes brewery tour, seminars, lots of cheese live music!

What You Should Expect: Clipper City, Oxford Organic Ales and Heavy Seas beers, Great Cheese Flavors and Tasting Stations, Over FIVE different kinds of Chili from local and regional Chili experts, Cheese and Beer pairing seminars, Special Cask Ales while supplies last, Live Music, a Souvenir Glass... and Much More! For tickets, click [here](#) or call 800-830-3796.

**Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>: Bell's Oberon Release with Larry Bell at RFD - 4:00pm til ?**

### **APRIL**

- **Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>: CRABS Beer Bus Tour**
  - \$40 per ticket includes doughnuts, OJ, bottled water, and some additional food.
  - Meet at 9:00am at Maryland Homebrew - 6770 Oak Hall Lane, Columbia, MD

Join us on our journey through Southeastern PA, touring the facilities and cozying up to the bars of four brewpubs. On the agenda:

- Victory Brewing Company, Downingtown
- Lancaster Brewing Company, Lancaster
- Union Barrel Works, Stevens
- McKenzie Brew House, Concord
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Email me at [mebida@yahoo.com](mailto:mebida@yahoo.com) **no later than Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>** to reserve your spot.



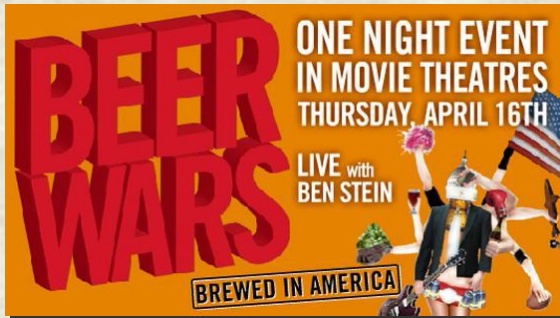
- **Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>: Beer, Bourbon, and BBQ Fest, Timonium Fairgrounds, MD**
  - \$40 VIP, \$30 regular, Noon to 6:00pm
  - Under Cover at the Grandstands

Join us at the festival for a great day of beer sippin', bourbon tastin', music listenin', cigar smokin', and barbeque eatin'. Your admission buys you a sampling glass so you can enjoy an ALL-YOU-CARE –TO-TASTE sampling of beer and bourbon. Some of the best barbeque vendors are on-site if you get hungry all while enjoying seminars in the tasting theater and LIVE music all day. Last year we doubled our attendance. This year – we expect the same so we've added some great new features:

- New bigger building
- More bars and tasting stations
- Larger Main Stage
- Bigger Tasting Theater
- More rooms for more patrons
- New contests

<http://beerandbourbon.com/maryland/show-info>

- **Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>: Yuri's Night**
- **Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>: Beer Wars LIVE with Ben Stein**



A one night event taking you inside the boardrooms and back rooms of the American beer industry. The event will feature the exclusive never-before-seen documentary \*Beer Wars\*, followed by a riveting LIVE discussion led by Ben Stein with America's leading independent brewers and experts taking you behind-the-scenes of their quest for the American Dream. \*Beer Wars\* will introduce you to the who's who in beer while following the journey of small, independent brewers who are challenging the corporate giants. Visit <http://www.BeerWarsMovie.com>

- **Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>: Mahaffey's Anniversary party with free catered buffet (Baltimore)**
  - 3 for \$4 12oz beers every day until 7:00pm
- **Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>: Zymurnaut Inter-Center Brewoff**
  - Noon to 4pm, location tbd
- **Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>: Ellicott Mills Brown Ale Competition**
  - 2pm at the Ellicott Mills Brewery, 8308 Main St, Ellicott City, MD
- **Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>: City Paper Beer Fest, Fells Point, Baltimore**

Sample 50+ beers from local and regional microbreweries. Plus, live music from The Fashionably Late, food, and prizes. More details soon.



## MAY

- **Friday, May, 1<sup>st</sup>: Mail ticket requests for Great Taste of the Midwest!!!**
  - Tasting is on Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-6:00pm, Madison, Wisconsin

Unless you know some special people, this will be your only opportunity to request tickets for this not-to-be-missed festival. If you make it, head straight to The Livery!

The [Great Taste of the Midwest](#) is one of the premier beer festivals in the United States. Over one hundred brewpubs and microbreweries from the Midwest attend each year to share beer and good times with five thousand patrons overlooking beautiful Lake Monona in Olin-Turville Park in Madison, Wisconsin.

Two thousand tickets are sold via mail order using a lottery which is open to everyone. If you would like to participate in the lottery, please send a business-sized SASE and a check or money order for the correct amount (payable to MHTG) to:

Great Taste!  
Madison Homebrewers and Tasters Guild  
P.O. Box 1365  
Madison, WI 53701-1365

### **Ticket orders must:**

- Be postmarked on May 1st. Orders with other postmarks will be returned to you unfulfilled.
- Include a business-sized, self addressed stamped envelope (SASE).
- Include a check or money order for the correct amount (prices coming soon), payable to MHTG.
- There is a limit of one mail order request and **two tickets per household**.



Any order that does not meet the requirements will be automatically removed from the lottery in favor of those that did. We will also return any mail orders that we feel are attempting to unfairly influence the outcome of the lottery.

Due to the enormous number of mail orders we receive, we are only able to fulfill about 25% of all mail orders, so not receiving a ticket is the norm, not the exception. Please allow 6-8 weeks for ticket processing, since we are a homebrewing club and not a professional order fulfillment company. We know you want your tickets, but please respect that we have our own family and work responsibilities too.

- **Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>: Big Brew**
  - 8:00am-5:00pm, rain or shine
  - At Maryland Homebrew – 6770 Oak Hall Lane, Columbia, MD

This year's Big Brew recipes are the tale of two AHA members whose homebrew recipes have gone on to be brewed by craft breweries.



Dave Levonian's award-winning Saison recipes have been brewed by [Ballast Point Brewery](#) for the [2008 Great American Beer Festival Pro-Am Competition](#), and by the [Lost Abbey Brewery](#) as one of the commemorative beers for the [2009 National Homebrewers Conference](#) this June in Oakland, CA.

Jim Denier is an award-winning homebrewer who brought his Dark Mild recipe with him when he started brewing at [Dry Dock Brewing Co.](#) in Aurora, CO. The SS Minnow Mild Ale is a favorite at the brewery, and was a favorite with the 2008 Great American Beer Festival (GABF) judges too; it was the silver medal beer in the [Session Beer category](#)!

More info at <http://www.beertown.org/events/bigbrew/recipes.html>.

- **Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>: Clipper City Real Ale and BBQ Fest**
  - \$49 - Noon to 5:00pm

Join us at the Clipper City Brewery for the [1st Annual Real Ale and Barbeque Festival](#) for an ALL-YOU-CARE-TO-TASTE extravaganza complete with Andy Nelson's legendary barbeque, a behind the scenes brewery tour and live music!

What You Should Expect: Clipper City, Oxford Organic Ales and Heavy Seas beers - OVER 7 SPECIAL CASKS OF REAL ALE.....while they last, cooking demonstrations, cornhole, live music and a wonderful spread of food from Andy Nelson's including: Pulled Pork BBQ, Smokehouse Dixie Chicken, Andy's Famous BBQ Beans, Carolina Slaw, Redskin Potato Salad, Memphis Style Ribs and lots of other fixin's. All guests will enjoy a souvenir glass and so MUCH MORE!!!!!!!

Call 800-830-3976 for additional information.



- **Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 6:00pm: Beer Dinner and Frederick Keys Baseball, Frederick MD**

Call 301-815-9900 for more info or click [here](#). Presented by Brewers Alley.

- **Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>: SAVOR – An American Craft Beer & Food Experience**
  - National Building Museum, 401 F St NW, DC
  - General admission, 7:30 to 11pm, \$95
  - Salon, 6:15 to 11pm, \$20

Enjoy a reception-style sampling of your choice of 35+ sweet and savory appetizers and 120 craft beers from 65 breweries. Converse with the luminaries of the craft beer industry - brewery owners, brewers and representatives will be on-hand - serving your beer.

Advance Ticket Sales begin Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00am to all 2008 SAVOR attendees, members of the American Homebrewers Association (AHA), and members of the Brewers Association (BA). The general public may purchase tickets at 2pm on Monday, February 9. All tickets must be purchased in advance.

<http://savorcraftbeer.com/>

- **Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> marks the beginning of DC Beer Week**



- **Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>: Maryland Brewer's Springfest, Frederick, MD**
  - Noon to 8pm, Harry Grove Stadium
  - \$17 in advance, \$25 at the door

The Frederick Keys play host to the Annual Maryland Brewer's Springfest on May 30<sup>th</sup> at Harry Grove Stadium. This festival welcomes a crowd of beer tasters, music fans and families each year. Sample over 60 beers from local Maryland breweries. Listen to live music performed by 21 The Difference, The Freddie Long Band and The Reagan Years - The East Coast's Premier 80's Tribute Band.

Check out the local brewer's, event line-up and buy your tickets at [www.frederickkeys.com](http://www.frederickkeys.com).

## JUNE

- **Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>: Guild Summer Picnic, Patapsco State Park**
  - Noon to 7:00pm

There will be a raffle for a heated and cooled 12 gallon conical fermenter. Chances are \$20 each and limited to 200 tickets. Sales start Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, with the drawing at the picnic. All proceeds go to charity. Tickets and details [here](http://www.smugmug.com/Homebrewing/532703).

This event is always a lot of fun. Check out the pictures from the 2008 Summer Picnic: <http://twowrap.smugmug.com/Homebrewing/532703>.

- **Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup>: Zymurnaut Picnic – Bldg 20 pavilion**
  - all-grain brewing demo at 9am
  - picnic at 11am

- **June 2009: AHA Conference in Oakland**

AHA Conference - Yes, it's several months away but the hotel is filling fast. The conference rate of \$129 is excellent considering the non-group rate is over \$250 and it's good from Mon-Sat of that week. Go to [www.ahaconference.org](http://www.ahaconference.org) and book now if you have any inkling of going. You can always cancel later with no penalty.



## Recurring Events

- **DuClaw Beer Releases – all locations (dates subject to change)**

DuClaw has a beer release every month for a new beer or a returning seasonal beer. To get free stuff at the release, sign up for the [mailing list](#). Giveaways end at 10pm (sharp), so get there early.

**“Celtic Fury” Release: Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**



This traditional Irish bevvie calms the ire of the clans with its delicious roast coffee aroma, smooth creamy feel and exquisitely dry finish. One pint of the hearty, deep garnet colored masterpiece and all grievances will be forgiven.

Style: Irish Stout  
Color: Black

Hop Variety:	Fuggie and East Kent Golding
Grains:	Pale malt, Roasted barley, Roasted barley, Chocolate Wheat malt
Bitterness:	36 BU's
Gravity:	13.5 plato
Alcohol Content:	5.5% abv

There will be a special sneak-preview night Monday, March 9th for [Pint Club](#) members.

### **“13 Degrees” Release: Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>**

Get ready to cheat fate with a foreboding potion of wheat and barley malt temptation. Pure and unfiltered, the first taste forewarns the unsuspecting of spicy clove and smooth banana lurking around the corner.

Style:	German Hefe-Weizen
Color:	Cloudy Golden
Hop Variety:	Hersbrucker
Grains:	Pilsen malt, Wheat malt
Bitterness:	13 BU's
Gravity:	13 plato
Alcohol Content:	4.8% abv



### **On the Horizon:**

“El Guapo” Munich-style Helles:	Tuesday, May 5 <sup>th</sup>
“Mayhem” Weizenbock:	Wednesday, May 20 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday, May 21 <sup>st</sup>
“Consecration” American Brown Ale:	Wednesday, June 17 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday, June 18 <sup>th</sup>
“Sawtooth” Belgian White Ale:	Wednesday, July 22 <sup>nd</sup> and Thursday, July 23 <sup>rd</sup>

### **•• Capitol City Brewing Company @ Union Station -- Upcoming Releases**

- March 13<sup>th</sup>: Irish Dry Stout & Irish Red Ale
- March 23<sup>rd</sup>: Cherry Blossom Ale
- Three months of Organics:
  - o April - June: Saison
  - o July - September: Wit
  - o October - December: Tripel

### **•• Clipper City Brewery Tours**

- Every Saturday at 1:00pm and 2:30pm.

Tour the brewery and see how your favorite beer is made. Buy a souvenir Clipper City glass for only \$5 and receive complimentary fresh beer samples!! And as always, the tour itself is free.

Tickets must be reserved in advance at <http://www.ccbeer.com/reserve-your-tour-tickets>